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## Child Abuse Prevention Month April 2012

### Read Me First!

We've all heard the saying that every person is unique. It's true – even for children. While environment can play a big part in how a child develops, research shows that babies come wired with their own personalities and temperaments. They are distinct individuals who crave love and acceptance. Our job as parents and caring adults is to celebrate them and help them use their gifts and talents, and the special interests they develop, to become healthy and happy young people, who grow into healthy and productive adults.

This year's prevention theme is **"Every Child Counts: Know Them. Nurture Them. Protect Them."** It highlights the fact that every child should be valued. The 2012 prevention packet is filled with resources that can help parents and caregivers as they nurture, communicate with and support the children and youth they are raising.

### How To Use The Packet

The parenting tips, child development information and other flyers included can be duplicated or reprinted for use during Child Abuse Prevention Month and throughout the year. There is also a sample press release and a Proclamation for your use. Feel free to customize the packet materials by adding information about your local program or inserting the name of your group.

### Find Prevention Information on the Web

You can find the latest statistics and other prevention information on the Virginia Department of Social Services web site: [www.dss.virginia.gov](http://www.dss.virginia.gov)

You may also download this entire packet from the Prevent Child Abuse Virginia web site, at [www.preventchildabuseva.org](http://www.preventchildabuseva.org) or on the Virginia Department of Social Services web site listed above.

### Don't Forget To Fill Out Your Survey – In Print or Online!

**Completing the SURVEY in the left side of this packet is very important.** We use your responses to plan for next year's packet. **You may mail, fax or scan the printed survey** or visit this web address to take the survey online:  
<http://pcav.org/survey-2012-prevent-child-abuse-prevention-month/>

We appreciate receiving copies of the materials you produce and distribute during Prevention Month and clippings from your local newspaper.



Virginia Coalition for Child Abuse Prevention  
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